sured their houses against fire and they had field their claims to the general insurance companies after their houses were set on fire and destroyed by rioters;

(b) if so, how many such victims had put forward their claims with the insurance companies;

(c) whether it is also a fact that such claims were rejected by the insurance companies on the ground that their houses were set on fire by the rioters and such eventuality was not covered by the policy,

(d) whether Government propose to review such cases and instruct the insurance companies to pay the insurance amount to the affected victims; and

(e) if so, by when such payments are likely to be made to the victims?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The insurance companies maintain statistics of claims reported and settled only as per the classes of business such as, fire, marine, motor & miscellaneous and not housewise/propertywise. As such, it is not possible to indicate the number of such cases.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e) Where claims were repudiated by the insurance companies on the ground that there was no riot cover, Government has already considered and sanctioned ex-gratia payment upto the maximum of Rs. 50,000/- or 50 per cent of the assessed loss which ever was less.

Rise in Prices of Cotton

116. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI. Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the prices of Cotton has shot up recently; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES AND FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI HUKUMADEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) The prices of cotton during the current cotton season (September, '90—August, '91) have ruled higher as compared to the prices during the corresponding period of the previous season. The main reasons for this are shorter than expected crop, higher demand, and difficulties in movement due to late rains and diesel supply.

भारत बिजनेस इंटरनेशनल लिमिटेड को बंद किया जाना

117. **सरदार जगजीत सिंह अरोड़ा :**
डा. जितेन्द्र कुमार जैन :
श्री सुनील बसु राय :
श्री वी. नारायणसामी :
श्री भुवनेश चतुर्वेदी :
श्री सुरेश कलमाडी :

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार ने हाल ही में भारत बिजनेस इंटरनेशनल लिमिटेड को बंद करने का निर्णय लिया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं;

(ग) क्या यह भी सच है कि उक्त प्रतिष्ठान को बंद करने का निर्णय ले लिए जाने के परिणामस्वरूप जापान की एक बड़ी फर्म मिट्सु बिशी इनकारपोरेट ने 100 मिलियन डालर के एक निर्यात समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर करने से इन्कार कर दिया है,